

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DUBLIN 00389 231709 Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-12 GAC-01 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 RSR-01 /123 W  
----- 003814

R 231555 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4516

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BELFAST

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DUBLIN 0389

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PBOR, EI

SUBJ: PROVOS REJECT WHITE PAPER

BEGIN SUMMARY: AFTER LONG STUDY AND INTERNAL  
DISSENSION, PROVO SINN FEIN HAS REJECTED WHITE PAPER IN  
PREDICTABLE BUT RELATIVELY TEMPERATE TERMS. DUBLIN  
PRESS NOTES THAT PROVOS HAVE LEFT OPEN POSSIBILITY OF  
OBSERVING CEASEFIRE AND CONTESTING NI ELECTIONS. SOURCE  
CLOSE TO PROVOS, HOWEVER, BELIEVES THEY WILL SOON  
ANNOUNCE RESUMPTION OF VIOLENCE. HE EXPECTS THAT LOYALIST  
EXTREMISTS WILL BEGIN SIMILAR CAMPAIGN. END SUMMARY.

1. DUBLIN MORNING PRESS MARCH 23 CARRIES TEXT OF  
STATEMENT FROM PROVISIONAL SINN FEIN REJECTING BRITISH  
WHITE PAER ON NI. PROVOS SAY THAT PROPOSALS FOR POWER-  
SHARING ARE ARTIFICIAL ATTEMPTS TO MAKE AN ARTIFICIAL  
STATE WORK, THE PROPOSED ALL- IRELAND CONFERENCE IS A  
" RE- RUN OF THE ABORTIVE DARLINGTON CONFERENCE," AND  
VAGUE PLANS FOR A COUNCIL OF IRELAND ARE A " SOP  
REPETITION" OF TREATY OF 1921. ACCORDING TO THIS PROVO  
THEOLOGY, WHITE PAPER, IS BASED ON " THE ORIGINAL VIOLENCE  
OF 1920 GOV'T OF IRELAND ACT, HENCE MERELY POSTPONES THE  
DAY OF TRUE AND LASTING PEACE." STATEMENT CALLS ON  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DUBLIN 00389 231709 Z

BRITISH TO FOLLOW EXAMPLE OF U. S., WHICH HAS " RECOGNIZED THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OF VIETNAM TO DECIDE THEIR OWN AFFAIRS." PROVOS CONSPICUOUSLY BLAME ALL NI TROUBLES ON BRITISH, WHILE APPEALING TO PROTESTANT COMMUNITY: " WE ARE GLAD TO SEE THAT A LARGE SECTION OF THE LOYALIST PEOPLE RECOGNIZE THAT WHAT IS PROPOSED IS A MEANINGLESS ASSEMBLY." UNIONISTA RE INVITED TO LOOK AGAIN AT SINN FEIN PROPOSALS FOR A NINE- COUNTY ULSTER PARLIAMENT, WHERE THEY WOULD HAVE A WORKING MAJORITY AND REAL POWER.

2. WHILE THESE PROVOS POSITIONS HAVE BEEN HEARD MANY TIMES, STATEMENT IS IN FACT A COMPARATIVELY TEMPERATE DOCUMENT. FURTHER, IT AVOIDS TWO KEY ISSUES IT SAYS NOTHING ABOUT CONTINUING CAMPAIGN OF VIOLENCE, AND IT NEITHER CONFIRMS NOR DENIES REPORTS THAT PROVOS MAY BE WILLING CONTEST NI ELECTIONS. " IRISH TIMES" REPORT ON STATEMENT IS HEADLINED " CEASEFIRE DECISION POSSIBLE."

3. AS FAR AS WE CAN TELL, MOST OF SPECULATION ON PROVO PEACE MOVES COMES FROM SEINN FEIN PUBLICITY DIRECTOR SEAN O BRADAIGH, WHO HAS MADE RESTRAINED PERSONAL STATEMENT ON WHITE PAPER AND INDICATED THAT PROVOS MAY CONTEST ELECTIONS WITHOUT TAKING SEATS IF NI LEGAL RESTRAINT ARE REMOVED. LEADERS HERE WOULD LIKE TO SEE PROVOS CONTESTING NI ELECTIONS, AS ANY SUCH MOVE AWAY FROM VIOLENCE WOULD BE HELPFUL IN SOUTH AS WELL AS NORTH.

4. UNFORTUNATELY, SOURCE ( WHO HAS REPORTED ACCURATELY ON PROVO INTENTIONS IN THE PAST) NOW TELLS US THAT HE BELIEVES HARD- LINERS, PRINCIPALLY IN BELFAST, HAVE WON DEBATE WITHIN PROVO LEADERSHIP. SOURCE THEREFORE EXPECTS THAT PROVOS WILL RESUME HOSTILITIES- - AFTER CURRENT DE FACTO CEASEFIRE-- AND WILL MAKE ANNOUNCEMENT ON THIS VERY SHORTLY. SOME OF POLITICALLY- INCLINED DUBLIN PROVOS CONTESTED DECISION BUT, AS IN PAST, WERE DEFEATED. SOURCE BELIEVES THAT PROVO ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY FIRM REPRESSIVE MEASURES FROM COSGRAVE. UNFORTUNATELY, CRACKDOWNS HERE ARE LIKELY HAVE MAINLY PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECT, AS GOI WILL FIND IT EASIER TO GET AT PROVO MODERATES THAN REAL HARD- LINERS. SOURCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DUBLIN 00389 231709 Z

BELIEVES THAT, IN AFTERMATH OF WHITE PAPER, MILITANT

LOYALISTS MAY ALSO LAUNCH CAMPAIGN OF VIOLENCE IN PROVO STYLE. THIS WOULD BE VERY GRIM DEVELOPMENT.

5. COMMENT: GIVEN CLEAR DISSENSION IN PROVO RANKS, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FORESEE WHAT THEY WILL DO, BUT THERE IS NO SOLID EVIDENCE YET THAT MODERATES WILL BE ABLE CHANGE POLICY OF VIOLENCE. RESUMPTION OF FULL-SACLE IRA CAMPAIGN WOULD BE EXTREMELY DISCOURAGING, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF TROUBLE PROVOS CAUSE DIRECTLY, BUT BECAUSE THEIR VIOLENCE ENCOURAGES COMPARABLE RESPONSE FROM PROTESTANT EXTREMISTS. BY NOW, IT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS EVEN TO PROVOS THAT EVERY INCIDENT OF SECTARIAN VIOLENCE HAS MULTIPLIER EFFECT. ONLY POSITIVE EFFECT OF PROVO WHITE- PAPER REJECTION IS THAT IT MAY, IN SOME SMALL MEASURE, ALLEVIATE UNIONIST ANGER AT BRITISH. MOORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973DUBLIN00389  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** DUBLIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730335/aaaaidcu.tel  
**Line Count:** 135  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <02-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <23-Aug-2001 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971218  
**Subject:** PROVOS REJECT WHITE PAPER  
**TAGS:** PBOR, EI  
**To:** BELFAST  
EUR  
LONDON  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005